

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

SS-15 NSC-05 DODE-00 NIC-01 /062 W

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R 251605Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8934

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 04879

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR, GE

SUBJECT: V-E DAY CELEBRATIONS

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REF: A) STATE 57493; B) STATE 46264; C) BONN 3172

SUMMARY: IN BONN GROUP AND TRIPARTITE MEETINGS MARCH 20 AND 21 FRG INFORMED OTHERS OF STATEMENT WHICH BONN REP WILL MAKE IN NATO AND FRENCH AND UK REPS INFORMED OF ADDITIONAL APPROACHES BY SOVIETS AND, IN UK CASE, BY YUGOSLAVS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN BONN GROUP MEETING MARCH 20 FRG REP PASSED TO ALLIED REPS "NON-PAPER" WITH TEXT OF STATEMENT WHICH FRG WILL MAKE IN NATO REGARDING DECISION OF ALLIES NOT TO PARTICIPATE WITH SOVIETS IN ANY 30TH ANNIVERSARY VE CEREMONIES ON GERMAN SOIL. STATEMENT WELCOMES THIS DECISION, NOTES DISTORTIONS IN SOVIET INTERPRETATIONS OF VICTORY, AND SAYS FRG WILL AS IT DID ON OCCASION OF 25TH ANNIVERSARY EXPRESS ON APPROPRIATE OCCASION FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S VIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN GERMANY SINCE THE WAR. FRG REP SAID HE WAS NOT SURE WHEN STATEMENT IN NATO WOULD BE MADE.

2. AT TRIPARTITE MEETING MARCH 21, UK REP (CULLIMORE) SAID FCO HAD ON MARCH 7 BEEN RECIPIENT OF APPROACHES ON VE CELEBRATIONS FROM BOTH SOVIETS AND YUGOSLAVS. FCO HEAD OF EAST EUROPE DEPT HAD RECEIVED YUGOSLAV MINISTER COUNSELOR WHO INFORMALLY PASSED INVITATION FOR CABINET RANK BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE TO YUGOSLAV CEREMONIES. FCO REPLY WAS THAT HMG WOULD CONSIDER MATTER WHEN SPECIFIC FORMAL INVITATION MADE. CULLIMORE SAID HMG HAS DECIDED THAT CABINET RANK REP OUT OF QUESTION AND UK PARTICIPATION, IF ANY, WOULD BE LIMITED TO PERSON WITH CLOSE WARTIME CONNECTION WITH YUGOSLAVIA. RE SOVIET APPROACH, SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN DISCUSSION MARCH 7 WITH CALLAGHAN INQUIRED HOW HMG WOULD REACT TO OFFICIAL SOVIET INVITATIONS FOR EVENTS IN MOSCOW. CALLAGHAN SAID DETAILS WERE NEEDED BEFORE DECISION COULD BE TAKEN BUT INDICATED HMG NOT OPPOSED TO PARTICIPATION IN PRINCIPLE IF CEREMONIES NOT DIRECTED AGAINST GERMAN PEOPLE. CULLIMORE SAID HMG PREPARED PARTICIPATE IN SOME FORM OF EVENT AND HAS ALREADY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO SOVIET PROPOSAL OF SENDING BRITISH VETERANS TO USSR. LONDON WILL TRY AVOID CONFIDENTIAL

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R 251605Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8935

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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ANY PARTICIPATION BY ACTIVE DUTY PERSONNEL AND WILL

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ACCEPT DELEGATION OF SOVIET VETS TO UK ONLY IF PRESSED.  
CULLIMORE RECALLED THAT UK/USSR DISCUSSIONS DURING  
WILSON VISIT TO MOSCOW ON EXCHANGES OF MILITARY VISITS  
NOT CONNECTED WITH 30TH ANNIVERSARY AND UK WILL TAKE  
GREAT CARE TO MAINTAIN SEPARATION.

3. FRENCH REP SAID SOVIET AMBASSADOR HAD MADE FEB. 26  
CALL ON QUAI SEC GEN ON SUBJECT. THE AMBASSADOR GENERAL-  
LY EXPLAINED VARIOUS EVENTS AND SAID HE WOULD SEND A  
PROTOCOL WITH DETAILS WHICH, HOWEVER, HAS NOT YET BEEN  
RECEIVED BY QUAI. FRENCH REP SAID THERE WAS  
UNCLARITY REGARDING THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR'S PRESENTATION,  
BUT PARIS BELIEVES HE WAS MAKING INVITATIONS FOR THE  
FOLLOWING (ALL IN MOSCOW):

A) JOINT MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE CPSU,  
SUPREME SOVIET, AND MEMBERS OF SOVIET GOVERNMENT WHICH  
WOULD BE ATTENDED BY ALLIED REPS;  
B) LARGE MEETING OF WAR VETERANS;  
C) APPROPRIATE WREATH-LAYINGS;  
D) DISCUSSIONS AND EXHIBITIONS RE ANNIVERSARY;  
E) USSR GOVERNMENT MESSAGE TO CHIEFS OF STATE OR  
GOVERNMENTS (COMMENT: APPARENTLY AN APPROPRIATE RESPONSE  
IS THE AIM);  
F) JOIN IN AN "APPEAL TO STATES AND PEOPLES"; AND  
G) PARTICIPATION BY FREE FRENCH FORCES WHICH  
FOUGHT IN USSR IN MILITARY PARADE.

FRENCH REP SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON HOW PARIS WOULD  
REACT TO RECEIPT OF FORMAL SOVIET INVITATIONS FOR ABOVE  
ITEMS. HE STRESSED THAT PARIS WAS PUZZLED BY STRANGE  
SOVIET BEHAVIOR IN THAT DETAILED PROTOCOL MENTIONED ON  
FEB. 26 BY SOVIET AMBASSADOR NOT YET RECEIVED BY QUAI.

HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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